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Hsu

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(54) **SINGLE-POLY NON-VOLATILE MEMORY CELL AND OPERATING METHOD THEREOF**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

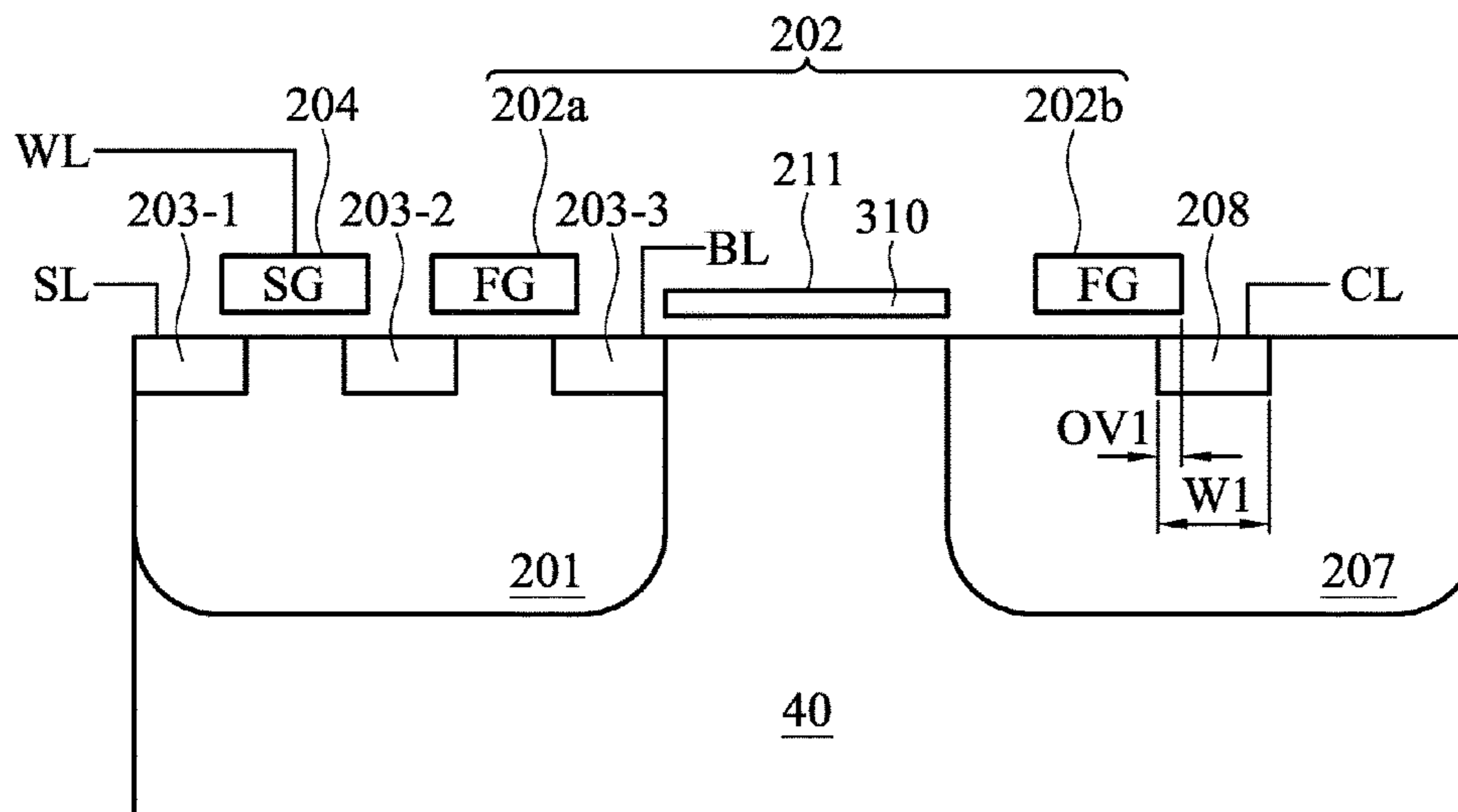
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G11C 16/04 (2006.01)
(Continued)

A non-volatile memory cell includes a floating-gate transistor, a select transistor, and a coupling structure. The floating-gate transistor is deposited in a P-well and includes a gate terminal coupled to a floating gate which is a first polysilicon layer, a drain terminal coupled to a bit line, and a source terminal coupled to a first node. The select transistor is deposited in the P-well and includes a gate terminal coupled to a select gate which is coupled to a word line, a drain terminal coupled to the first node, and a source terminal coupled to the source line. The floating-gate transistor and the select transistor are N-type transistors. The coupling structure is formed by extending the first polysilicon layer to overlap a control gate, in which the control gate is a P-type doped region in an N-well and the control gate is coupled to a control line.

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36 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets

400



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G11C 16/10 (2006.01)
H01L 29/49 (2006.01)
H03K 3/012 (2006.01)
H03K 19/0185 (2006.01)
H03K 19/20 (2006.01)
H03K 3/037 (2006.01)
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G11C 7/24 (2006.01)
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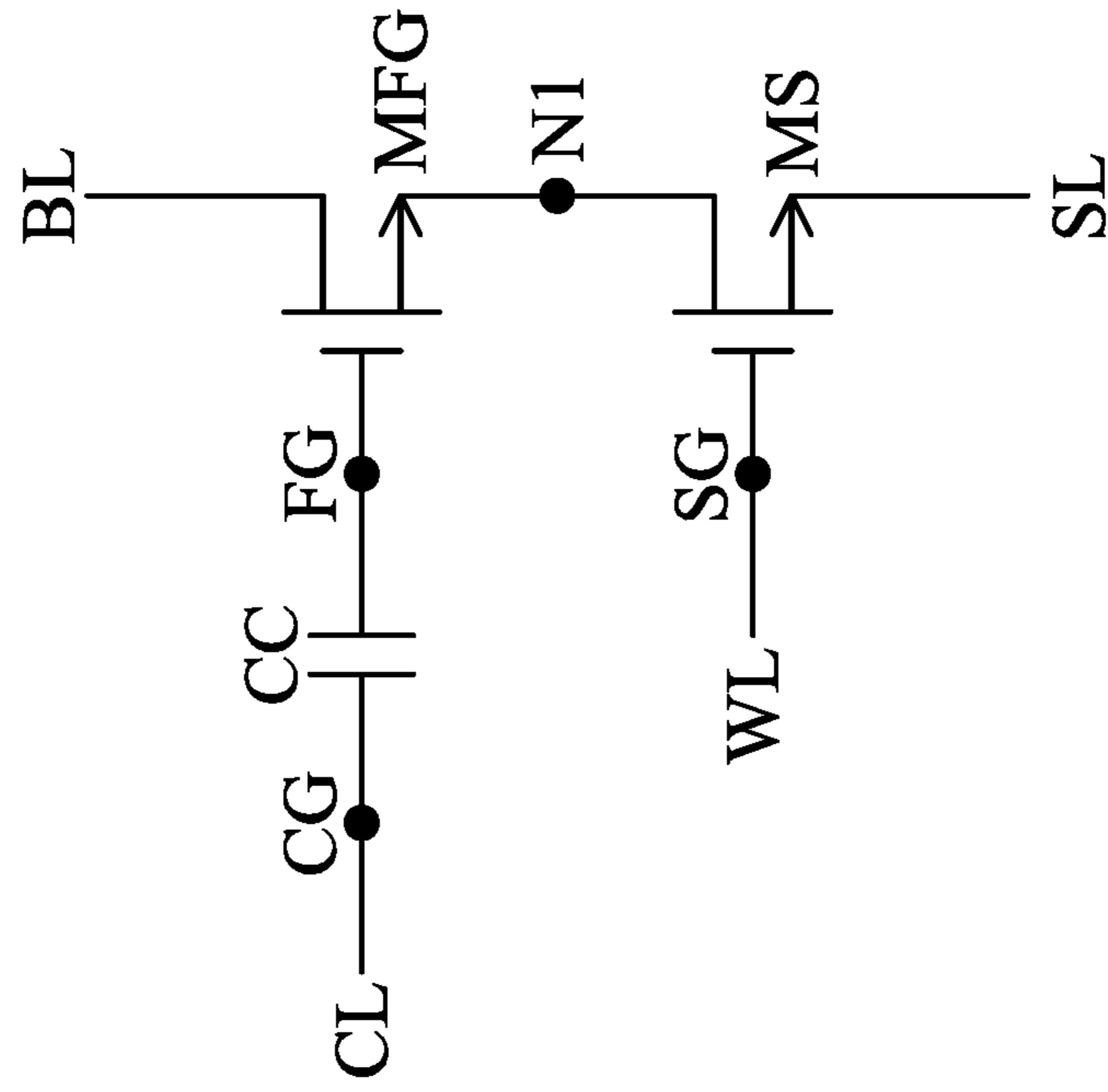


FIG. 1

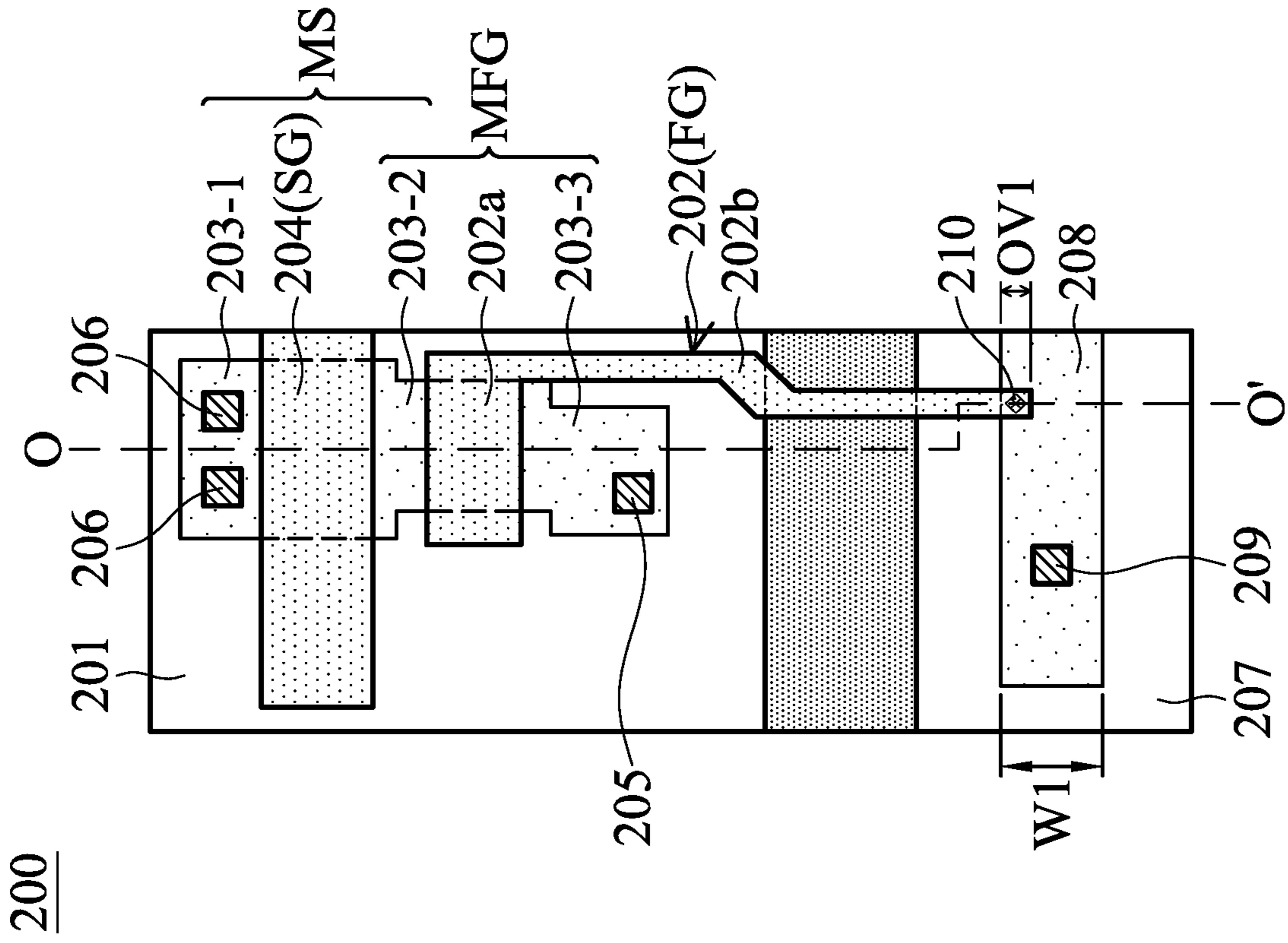


FIG. 2

400

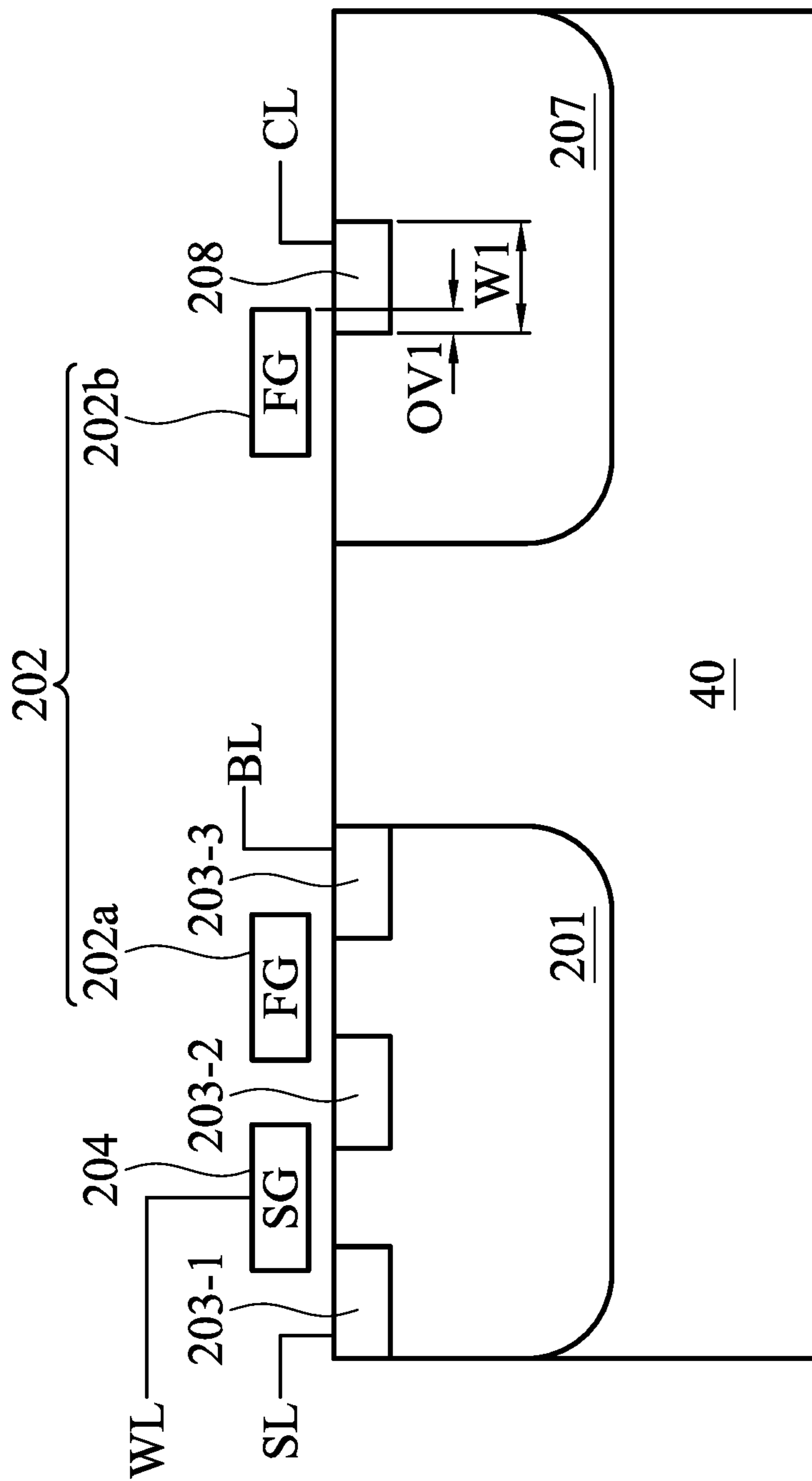


FIG. 4A

400

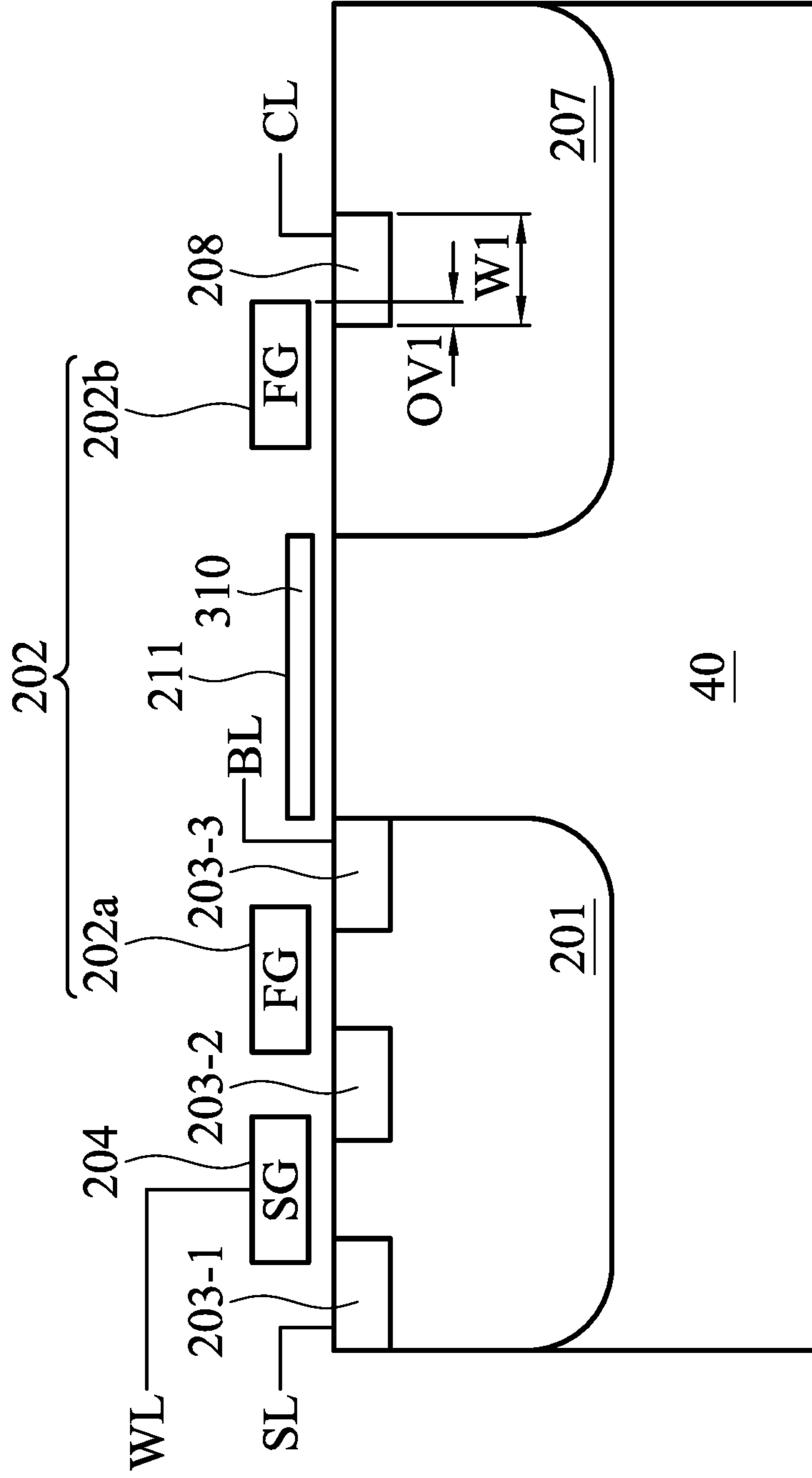


FIG. 4B

500

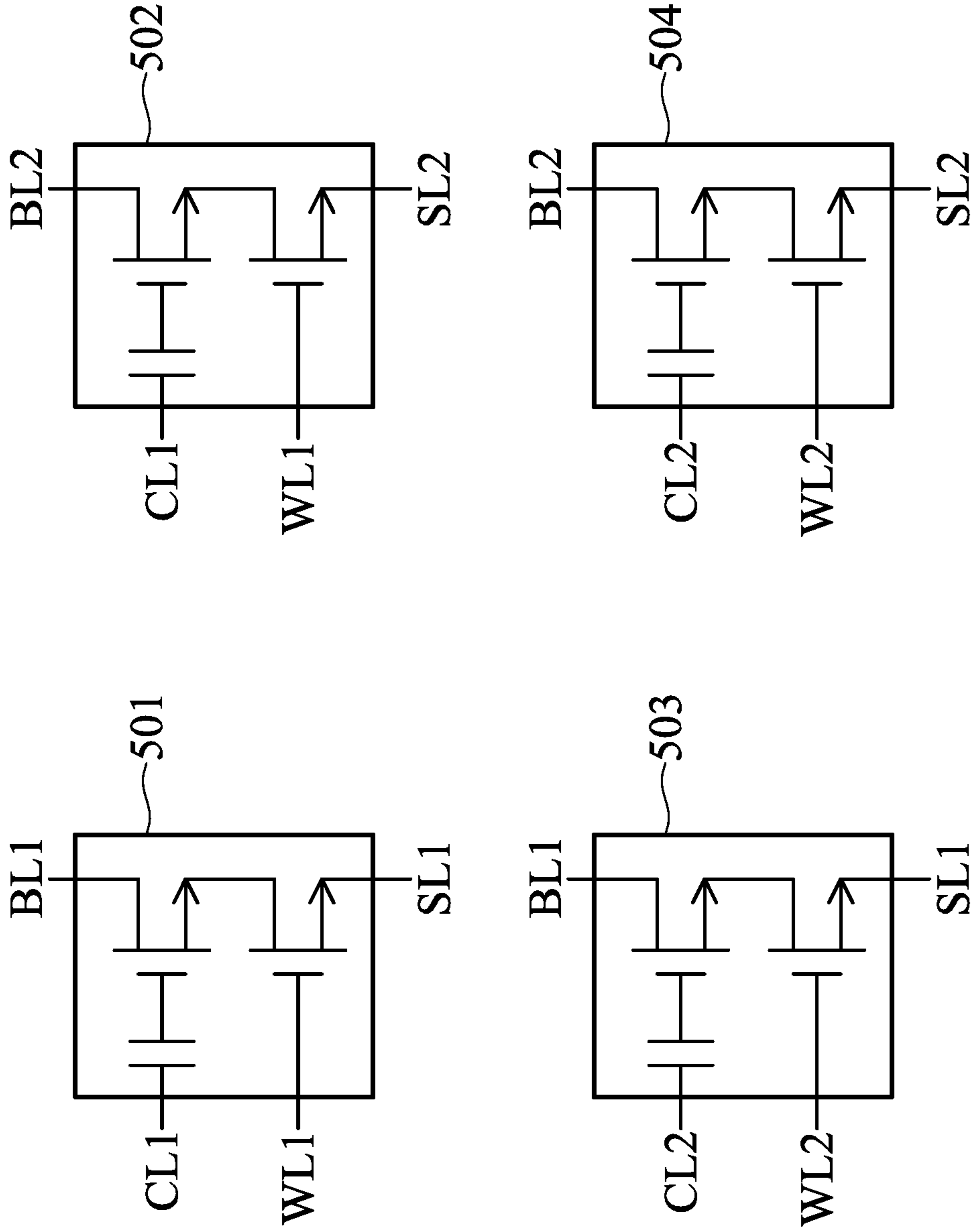


FIG. 5

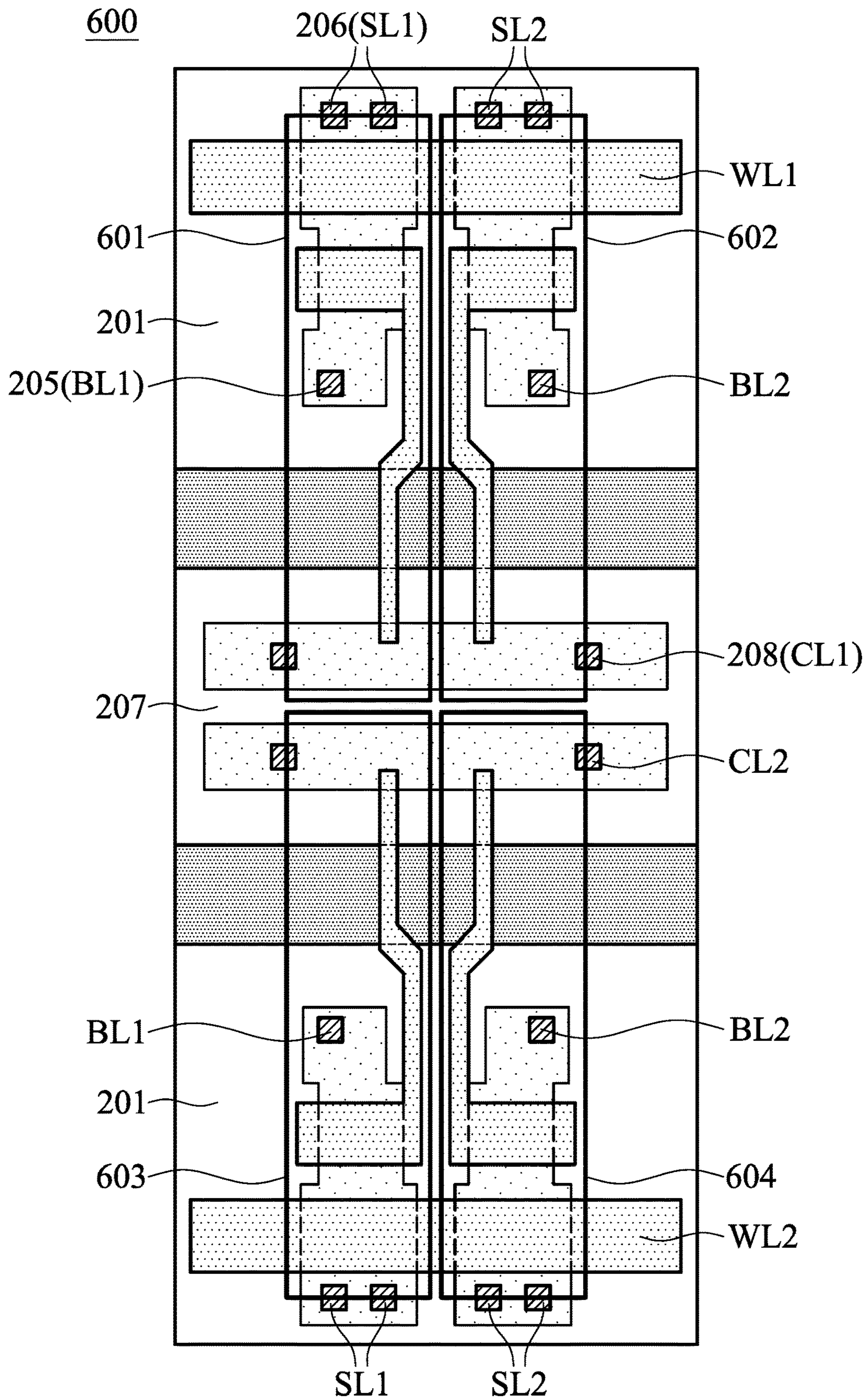


FIG. 6

700

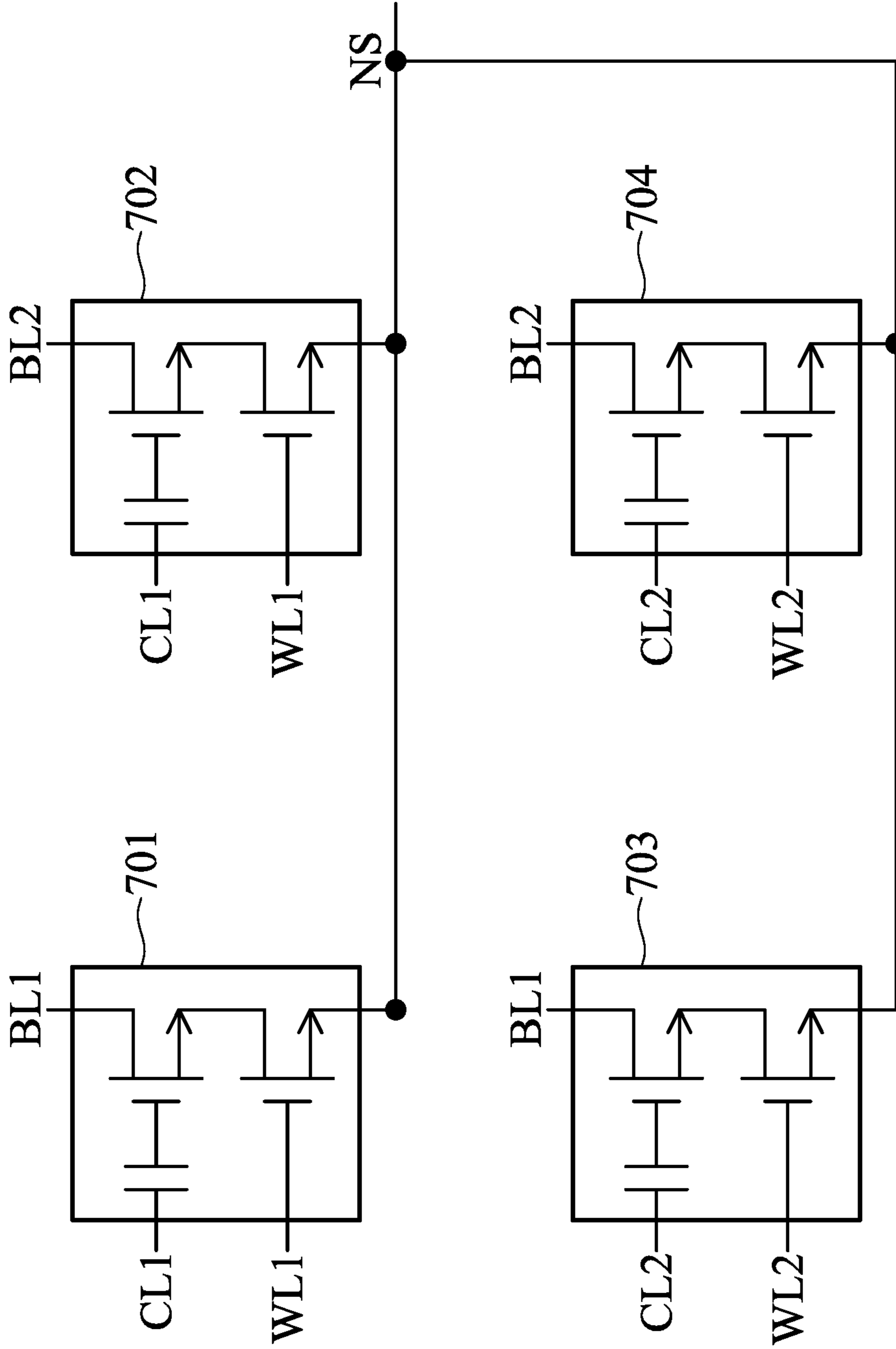


FIG. 7

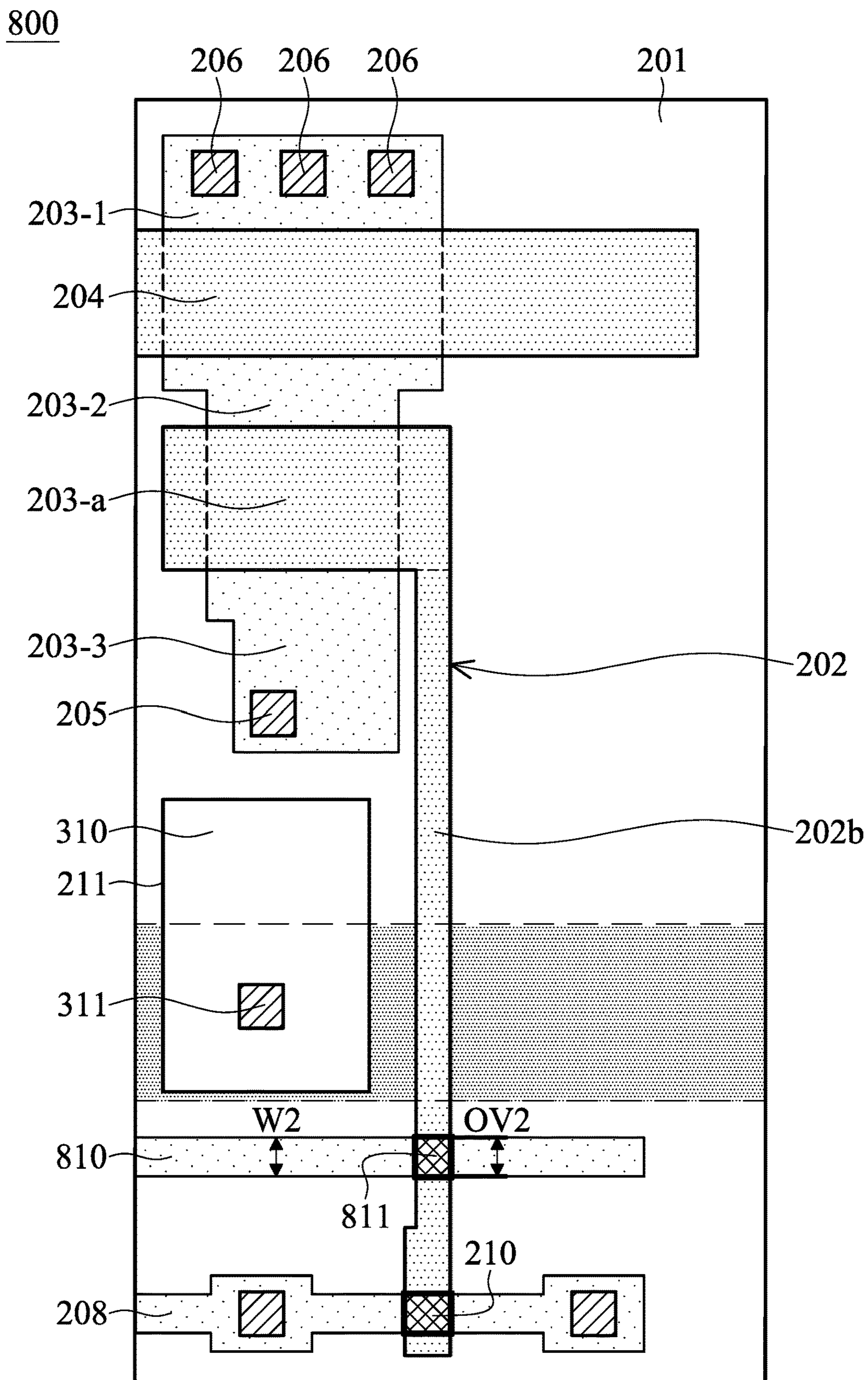


FIG. 8

**SINGLE-POLY NON-VOLATILE MEMORY
CELL AND OPERATING METHOD
THEREOF**

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED
APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/733,089, filed on Sep. 19, 2018, the entirety of which is incorporated by reference herein.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

The disclosure relates generally to a non-volatile memory cell and a non-volatile memory array, and more particularly it relates to an electrically erasable programmable (EEP) non-volatile memory cell and an EEP non-volatile memory array.

Description of the Related Art

Semiconductor memory devices have become popular for use in a variety of electronic devices. For example, non-volatile memory is widely used in cellular telephones, digital cameras, personal digital assistants, mobile computing devices, and other applications.

Generally, there are two types of non-volatile memory: multi-time programmable (MTP) memory and one-time programmable (OTP) memory. MTP memory is multi-readable and multi-writable. For example, electrically programmable and electrically erasable read-only memory (EEPROM) and flash memory are designed to be equipped with some corresponding electric circuits to support different operations such as programming, erasing and reading. OTP functions perfectly with electric circuits with mere programming and reading functions. Electric circuits for erasing operations are not required in OTP.

Single-poly non-volatile memory designs have been proposed which reduce the additional processing cost. A single-poly non-volatile memory forms the charge-storage floating gate with a single layer of polysilicon. Because the single-poly non-volatile memory is compatible with regular CMOS process, it is applied in the field of embedded memory, embedded nonvolatile memory in the mixed-mode circuits and micro-controllers (such as System on Chip, SOC).

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Embodiments of the invention provide a non-volatile memory cell that has low power consumption, that can be programmed by page or byte, and that is suitable for any type of substrate. Embodiments of the invention further integrate the non-volatile memory cell into a non-volatile memory array. The corresponding operations of the non-volatile memory array in the read mode, the program mode, or the erase mode are fully described.

In an embodiment, a non-volatile memory cell comprises: a floating-gate transistor, a select transistor, and a coupling structure. The floating-gate transistor is deposited in a P-well and comprises a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, in which the gate terminal is coupled to a floating gate, the drain terminal is coupled to a bit line, and the source terminal is coupled to a first node. The floating gate is formed by a first polysilicon layer. The select transistor is deposited in the P-well and comprises a gate terminal, a

drain terminal, and a source terminal, in which the gate terminal is coupled to a select gate, the drain terminal is coupled to the first node, and the source terminal is coupled to a source line. The select gate is coupled to a word line, and the floating-gate transistor and the select transistor are N-type transistors. The coupling structure is formed by extending the first polysilicon layer to overlap a control gate, in which the control gate is a P-type doped region in an N-well and the control gate is coupled to a control line.

A non-volatile memory array comprising a plurality of non-volatile memory cells, which comprise at least a first non-volatile memory cell, a second non-volatile memory cell, a third non-volatile memory cell, and a fourth non-volatile memory cell, is provided herein. Each of the non-volatile memory cells comprises: a floating-gate transistor, a select transistor, and a coupling structure. The floating-gate transistor is deposited in a P-well and comprises a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, in which the gate terminal is coupled to a floating gate, the drain terminal is coupled to a bit line, and the source terminal is coupled to a first node. The floating gate is a first polysilicon layer. The select transistor is deposited in the P-well and comprises a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, in which the gate terminal is coupled to a select gate, the drain terminal is coupled to the first node, and the source terminal is coupled to a source line. The select gate is coupled to a word line, and the floating-gate transistor and the select transistor are N-type transistors. The coupling structure is formed by stretching the first polysilicon layer to overlap a control gate, in which the control gate is a P-type doped region in an N-well and the control gate is coupled to a control line.

A detailed description is given in the following embodiments with reference to the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The invention can be more fully understood by reading the subsequent detailed description and examples with references made to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram of a non-volatile memory cell in accordance with an embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 2 illustrates a top view of a layout of the non-volatile memory cell in FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 3 illustrates a top view of a layout of the non-volatile memory cell in accordance with another embodiment of the invention;

FIGS. 4A-4B show a cross-sectional view of a non-volatile memory cell in accordance with an embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram of a non-volatile memory array in accordance with an embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 6 illustrates a top view of a layout of the non-volatile memory array in accordance with an embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 7 is a schematic diagram of a non-volatile memory array in accordance with another embodiment of the invention; and

FIG. 8 illustrates a top view of a layout of the non-volatile memory cell in accordance with another embodiment of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE
INVENTION

This description is made for the purpose of illustrating the general principles of the invention and should not be taken

in a limiting sense. In addition, the present disclosure may repeat reference numerals and/or letters in the various examples. This repetition is for the purpose of simplicity and clarity and does not in itself dictate a relationship between the various embodiments and/or configurations discussed. The scope of the invention is best determined by reference to the appended claims.

It should be understood that the following disclosure provides many different embodiments, or examples, for implementing different features of the application. Specific examples of components and arrangements are described below to simplify the present disclosure. These are, of course, merely examples and are not intended to be limiting. In addition, the present disclosure may repeat reference numerals and/or letters in the various examples. This repetition is for the purpose of simplicity and clarity and does not in itself dictate a relationship between the various embodiments and/or configurations discussed. Moreover, the formation of a feature on, connected to, and/or coupled to another feature in the present disclosure that follows may include embodiments in which the features are formed in direct contact, and may also include embodiments in which additional features may be formed interposing the features, such that the features may not be in direct contact.

FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram of a non-volatile memory cell in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 1, the non-volatile memory cell 100 includes a floating-gate transistor MFG, a select transistor MS, and a coupling capacitor CC. According to an embodiment of the invention, the floating-gate transistor MFG and the select transistor MS are N-type transistors.

The floating-gate transistor MFG includes a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, in which the gate terminal is coupled to a floating gate FG, the drain terminal is coupled to a bit line BL, and the source terminal is coupled to a first node N1. The select transistor MS includes a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, in which the gate terminal is coupled to a select gate SG, the drain terminal is coupled to the first node N1, and the source terminal is coupled to the source line SL. According to an embodiment of the invention, the select gate SG is coupled to the word line WL.

The coupling capacitor CC is coupled between the floating gate FG and a control gate CG. According to an embodiment of the invention, the control gate CG is coupled to the control line CL. According to an embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell 100 is programmed and erased by Fowler-Nordheim method such that the non-volatile memory cell 100 may achieve low power consumption.

FIG. 2 illustrates a top view of a layout of the non-volatile memory cell in FIG. 1 in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. 2, the floating-gate transistor MFG and the select transistor MS in FIG. 1 is deposited in the P-well 201. The floating gate FG is formed by the first polysilicon layer 202 of a polysilicon layer, in which the first polysilicon layer 202 includes a first part 202a and a second part 202b.

As shown in FIG. 2, the first part 202a is overlapped with the second N-type doped region 203-2 and the third N-type doped region 203-3. The second part 202b extends from the P-well 201 to the N-well 207.

The floating-gate transistor MFG in FIG. 1 is formed by the first part 202a, the second N-type doped region 203-2 and the third N-type doped region 203-3. In some embodi-

ments, the floating gate FG is overlapped with the second N-type doped region 203-2 and the third N-type doped region 203-3.

The select gate SG is formed by the second polysilicon layer 204, in which the select transistor MS in FIG. 1 is formed by the second polysilicon layer 204, the first N-type doped region 203-1 and the second N-type doped region 203-2. In some embodiments, the second polysilicon layer 204 of the select gate SG is overlapped with the first N-type doped region 203-1 and the second N-type doped region 203-2.

According to an embodiment of the invention, the second polysilicon layer 204 (i.e., the select gate SG) is coupled to the word line WL. As shown in FIG. 2, at least one bit-line contact 205 electrically couples the third N-type doped region 203-3 to the bit line BL in FIG. 1, and one or more source-line contacts 206 electrically couple the first N-type doped region 203-1 to the source line SL in FIG. 1.

As shown in FIG. 2, the N-well 207 is deposited apart from the P-well 201. A P-type doped region 208 corresponding to the control gate CG in FIG. 1 is deposited in the N-well 207, and the control-line contact 209 electrically couples the P-type doped region 208 to the control line CL.

The second part 202b includes a first overlapped area 210 that is overlapped with the P-type doped region 208 which forms the coupling capacitor CC in FIG. 1. As shown in FIG. 2, the first overlapped area 210 has a first overlap width OV1 which is less than a first width W1 of the P-type doped region 208. According to another embodiment of the invention, the first overlap width OV1 may be equal to the width of the P-type doped region 208.

According to an embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell 200 in FIG. 2 is fabricated in a P-type substrate. According to another embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell 200 in FIG. 2 may be fabricated in an N-type substrate. According to yet another embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell 200 in FIG. 2 may be fabricated in a deep N-well.

FIG. 3 illustrates a top view of a layout of the non-volatile memory cell in accordance with another embodiment of the invention. Comparing FIG. 3 to FIG. 2, the non-volatile memory cell 300 further includes a first coupling structure 310, in which the first coupling structure 310 is formed by a third polysilicon layer 211. According to some embodiments of the invention, at least two of the first polysilicon layer 202, the second polysilicon layer 204, and the third polysilicon layer 211 are in the same polysilicon layer.

The first coupling structure 310 is deposited close to the first polysilicon layer 202, which is configured to increase the coupling rate to the floating gate FG (i.e., the first polysilicon layer 202 in FIG. 3). According to an embodiment of the invention, the first coupling structure 310 is coupled to the bit line BL. According to another embodiment of the invention, the first coupling structure 310 is coupled to an independently-controlled coupling voltage by at least one coupling contact 311.

According to other embodiments of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell 300 may further include a second coupling structure (not shown in FIG. 3) formed by a metal layer, which is fully, or partially, covering the first polysilicon layer 202 (i.e., the floating gate FG). According to an embodiment of the invention, the second coupling structure is coupled to the bit line BL. According to another embodiment of the invention, the first coupling structure 310 and the second coupling structure are coupled to the independently-controlled coupling voltage. According to other

embodiments of the invention, the first coupling structure **310** and the second coupling structure may be biased individually.

FIGS. **4A-4B** show a cross-sectional view of a non-volatile memory cell in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. According to an embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell **400A** in FIG. **4A** is a cross-sectional view along the dot line from **O** to **O'** in FIG. **2**, which indicates that the non-volatile memory cell **400A** corresponds to the non-volatile memory cell **200** in FIG. **2**.

As shown in FIG. **4A**, the non-volatile memory **400A** is formed on a substrate **40**. According to an embodiment of the invention, the substrate **40** is N-type. According to another embodiment of the invention, the substrate **40** is P-type. The P-well **201** and the N-well **207** are deposited apart in the substrate **40**.

The first N-type doped region **203-1**, the second N-type doped region **203-2**, and the third N-type doped region **203-3** are deposited in the P-well **201**. The first part **202a** of the first polysilicon layer **202** overlaps the second N-type doped region **203-2** and the third N-type doped region **203-3** to form the floating-gate transistor MFG in FIG. **1**.

The second polysilicon layer **204** overlaps the first N-type doped region **203-1** and the second N-type doped region **203-2** to form the select transistor MS in FIG. **1**, in which the second polysilicon layer **204** corresponds to the select gate SG.

Referring to FIG. **2**, the second part **202b** of the first polysilicon layer **202** is extended from the P-well **201** to the N-well **207**. Therefore, the second part **202b** is also deposited on the N-well **207** in FIG. **4A**. As shown in FIG. **4A**, the second part **202b** has the first overlap width **OV1** which is less than the first width **W1** of the P-type doped region **208**. According to another embodiment of the invention, the first overlap width **OV1** may be equal to the width of the P-type doped region **208**.

As shown in FIG. **4B**, the non-volatile memory cell **400B**, which corresponds to the non-volatile memory cell **300**, may further include a first coupling structure **310** formed close to the first polysilicon layer **202**, in order to increase the coupling rate to the floating gate FG. According to an embodiment of the invention, the first coupling structure **310** is coupled to the bit line BL. According to another embodiment of the invention, the first coupling structure **310** is coupled to an independently-controlled coupling voltage.

As shown in FIGS. **4A** and **4B**, the select gate SG is coupled to the word line WL, the first N-type doped region **203-1** is coupled to the source line SL, the third N-type doped region **203-3** is coupled to the bit line BL, and the P-type doped region **208** is coupled to the control line CL.

When the non-volatile memory cell **400** is in the read mode, a first positive voltage **VP1** is applied to the word line WL, the bit line BL, the control line CL, and the N-well **207** while the source line SL and the P-well **201** are coupled to the ground. According to an embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell **400** is implemented in a CMOS process, and the first positive voltage **VP1** is less than the breakdown voltage of the CMOS process.

According to an embodiment of the invention, when electrons are trapped in the floating gate FG, the floating-gate transistor MFG is OFF such that the current detected in the bit line BL is less than a threshold. That is, the data stored in non-volatile memory cell **400** is logic "0".

According to another embodiment of the invention, when electrons are ejected from the floating gate FG, the floating-gate transistor MFG is ON such that the current detected in

the bit line BL exceeds a threshold. That is, the data stored in non-volatile memory cell **400** is logic "1".

When the non-volatile memory cell **400** is in the program mode, the P-well **201** and the N-well **207** are coupled to the ground, a second positive voltage **VP2** is applied to the word line WL, the source line SL, and the bit line BL, while a first negative voltage **VN1** is applied to the control line CL. According to an embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell **400** is implemented in a CMOS process, and the second positive voltage **VP2** and the absolute value of the first negative voltage **VN1** are lower than the breakdown voltage of the CMOS process. In addition, the second positive voltage **VP2** and the absolute value of the first negative voltage **VN1** exceed the first positive voltage **VP1**.

According to an embodiment of the invention, when the non-volatile memory cell **400** is in the program mode, the electrons will be injected into the first polysilicon layer **202** (i.e., the floating gate FG) from the control line CL. Therefore, the control line CL is biased with the first negative voltage **VN1** such that the electrons are injected into the floating gate FG from the first overlapped area **210**.

According to an embodiment of the invention, when the non-volatile memory cell **400** is in the erase mode, a third positive voltage **VP3** is applied to the control line CL and the N-well **207** while the word line WL, the source line SL, the bit line BL, and the P-well **201** are coupled to the ground. According to an embodiment of the invention, the third positive voltage **VP3** exceeds the breakdown voltage of the non-volatile memory cell **400**.

Since the electrons will be ejected from the floating gate FG to the control line CL, the control line CL is biased with a high voltage to absorb the electrons from the floating gate FG. In addition, power transistors having a higher breakdown voltage are required to generate the third positive voltage **VP3** exceeding the breakdown voltage. However, driving circuits with the power transistors are chip area consumption, such that the third positive voltage **VP3** should be lowered to mitigate the chip area consumption.

According to another embodiment of the invention, when the non-volatile memory cell **400** is in the erase mode, a fourth positive voltage **VP4** is applied to the control line CL and the N-well **207** while a second negative voltage **VN2** is applied to the word line WL, the source line SL, the bit line BL, and the P-well **201** such that electrons are ejected from the floating gate FG to the control line CL.

According to an embodiment of the invention, the fourth positive voltage **VP4** and the absolute value of the second negative voltage **VN2** are lower than the breakdown voltage of the non-volatile memory cell **400**. Since the fourth positive voltage **VP4** and the absolute value of the second negative voltage **VN2** are lower than the breakdown voltage, power transistors are no longer required, and the chip area may be reduced.

According to an embodiment of the invention, a sum of the fourth positive voltage **VP4** and the absolute value of the second negative voltage **VN2** may be equal to the third positive voltage **VP3**. According to some embodiments of the invention, the third positive voltage **VP3** exceeds the second positive voltage **VP2**, the absolute value of the first negative voltage **VN1**, the fourth positive voltage **VP4**, and the absolute value of the second negative voltage **VN2**.

The bias voltages of the non-volatile memory cell **400** in the read mode, the program mode, and the erase mode are as summarized in Table 1.

TABLE 1

	Read Mode	Program Mode	Erase Mode Type-1	Erase Mode Type-2
WL	VP1	VP2	0	VN2
SL	0	VP2	0	VN2
BL	VP1	VP2	0	VN2
P-well	0	0	0	VN2
CL	VP1	VN1	VP3	VP4
N-well	VP1	0	VP3	VP4

According to an embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell **300** is programmed and erased by Fowler-Nordheim method such that the non-volatile memory cell **300** may achieve low power consumption.

FIG. **5** is a schematic diagram of a non-volatile memory array in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. As shown in FIG. **5**, the non-volatile memory array **500** includes a first non-volatile memory cell **501**, a second non-volatile memory cell **502**, a third non-volatile memory cell **503**, and a fourth non-volatile memory cell **504**, in which each of the first non-volatile memory cell **501**, the second non-volatile memory cell **502**, the third non-volatile memory cell **503**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **504** corresponds to the non-volatile memory cell **100** in FIG. **1**.

According to other embodiments of the invention, the position and/or quantity of the non-volatile memory cells may vary. For example, the non-volatile memory array **500** may include more than four non-volatile memory cells arranged in matrix. The first non-volatile memory cell **501**, the second non-volatile memory cell **502**, the third non-volatile memory cell **503**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **504** are illustrated herein for the simplicity of explanation.

As shown in FIG. **5**, the first word line **WL1** and the first control line **CL1** are coupled to the first non-volatile memory cell **501** and the second non-volatile memory cell **502** while the second word line **WL2** and the second control line **CL2** are coupled to the third non-volatile memory cell **503** and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **504**.

The first bit line **BL1** and the first source line **SL1** are coupled to the first non-volatile memory cell **501** and the third non-volatile memory cell **503** while the second bit line **BL2** and the second source line **SL2** are coupled to the second non-volatile memory cell **502** and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **504**.

FIG. **6** illustrates a top view of a layout of the non-volatile memory array in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. According to an embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory array **600** corresponds to the non-volatile memory array **500**. The non-volatile memory array **600** includes a first non-volatile memory cell **601**, a second non-volatile memory cell **602**, a third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and a fourth non-volatile memory cell **604**.

According to an embodiment of the invention, each of the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** corresponds to the non-volatile memory cell **200** in FIG. **2**. According to another embodiment of the invention, each of the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** may correspond to the non-volatile memory cell **300** in FIG. **3**.

The first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell

603, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** correspond to the first non-volatile memory cell **501**, the second non-volatile memory cell **502**, the third non-volatile memory cell **503**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **504** in FIG. **5** respectively.

As shown in FIG. **6**, the non-volatile memory array **600** is deposited in the P-well **201** and the N-well **207**, which are deposited apart. The first non-volatile memory cell **601** and the second non-volatile memory cell **602** share the select gate **SG** (i.e., the second polysilicon layer **204**) which is coupled to the first word line **WL1**. The bit-line contact **205** of the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is coupled to the first bit line **BL1**, and the bit-line contact **205** of the second non-volatile memory cell **602** is coupled to the second bit line **BL2**.

The source-line contact **206** of the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is coupled to the first source line **SL1**, and the source-line contact **206** of the second non-volatile memory cell **602** is coupled to the second source line **SL2**. The first non-volatile memory cell **601** and the second non-volatile memory cell **602** also share the control gate **CG** (i.e., the P-type doped region **208**) which is coupled to the first control line **CL1**.

The third non-volatile memory cell **603** and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** are illustrated in FIG. **6**, which is not repeated herein. It should be noted that the non-volatile memory array **600** is illustrated for the simplicity of explanation, so that the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** are deposited in the same P-well **201**.

According to an embodiment of the invention, when the first non-volatile memory cell **601** in FIG. **6** is in the program mode, the P-well **201** and N-well **207** are coupled to the ground, the second positive voltage **VP2** is applied to the first word line **WL1**, the first source line **SL1**, and the first bit line **BL1**, while a first negative voltage **VN1** is applied to the first control line **CL1** such that electrons are injected into the floating gate **FG** of the first non-volatile memory cell **601** from the first control line **CL1**. Therefore, the voltage across the floating gate **FG** of the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is a sum of the second positive voltage **VP2** and the absolute value of the first negative voltage **VN1**.

In order to inhibit the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** from being programmed along with the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second bit line **BL2**, the second source line **SL2**, the second word line **WL2**, and the second control line **CL2** are coupled to the ground.

Therefore, the voltage across the floating gate **FG** of the second non-volatile memory cell **602** is the absolute value of the first negative voltage **VN1** and those of the third non-volatile memory cell **603** and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** are **0V** such that the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** are inhibited from being programmed at the same time.

When the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the program mode, the bias voltages of the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** with separated source lines are as summarized in Table 2.

9

TABLE 2

	601	602	603	604
WL	VP2	VP2	0	0
SL	VP2	0	VP2	0
BL	VP2	0	VP2	0
P-well	0	0	0	0
CL	VN1	VN1	0	0
N-well	0	0	0	0

According to an embodiment of the invention, when the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the erase mode, the third positive voltage **VP3** is applied to the first control line **CL1** and the N-well **207** while the first word line **WL1**, the first source line **SL1**, the first bit line **BL1**, and the P-well **201** are coupled to the ground such that electrons can be ejected from the floating gate **FG** of the first non-volatile memory cell **601** to the first control line **CL1**. According to an embodiment of the invention, the third positive voltage **VP3** exceeds the breakdown voltage of the non-volatile memory cell **600**.

In order to inhibit the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** from being erased along with the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second word line **WL2** is coupled to the ground while a fourth positive voltage **VP4** is applied to the second bit line **BL2**, the second source line **SL2**, and the second control line **CL2**. According to an embodiment of the invention, the fourth positive voltage **VP4** is less than the breakdown voltage of the non-volatile memory array **600**, and the difference between the third positive voltage **VP3** and the fourth positive voltage **VP4** is less than the breakdown voltage.

Since the second non-volatile memory cell **602** shares the first control line **CL1** with the first non-volatile memory **601**, the second bit line **BL2** and the second source line **SL2** are coupled to the fourth positive voltage **VP4** such that the voltage across the floating gate **FG** of the second non-volatile memory cell **602** is lower.

Even though the third non-volatile memory cell **603** and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** are coupled to the second control line **CL2**, however, the non-volatile memory array **600** is formed in the N-well **207**, the second control line **CL2** is coupled to the fourth positive voltage **VP4** to prevent the junction between the P-type doped region **208**, which is coupled to the second control line **CL2**, and the N-well **207** from breakdown.

In addition, the voltage across the floating gate **FG** of the third non-volatile memory cell **603** is the fourth positive voltage **VP4** and that of the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** is **0V**, so that the third non-volatile memory cell **603** and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** are inhibited to be erased.

When the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the erase mode in accordance with an embodiment of the invention, the bias voltages of the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** with separated source lines are as summarized in Table 3.

TABLE 3

	601	602	603	604
WL	0	0	0	0
SL	0	VP4	0	VP4

10

TABLE 3-continued

	601	602	603	604
BL	0	VP4	0	VP4
P-well	0	0	0	0
CL	VP3	VP3	VP4	VP4
N-well	VP3	VP3	VP3	VP3

According to another embodiment of the invention, when the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the erase mode, the fourth positive voltage **VP4** is applied to the first control line **CL1** and the N-well **207** while a second negative voltage **VN2** is applied to the first word line **WL1**, the first source line **SL1**, the first bit line **BL1**, and the P-well **201** such that the electrons are ejected from the floating gate **FG** of the first non-volatile memory cell **601** to the first control line **CL1**.

According to other embodiments of the invention, the first word line **WL1** may be coupled to the ground or the second negative voltage **VN2**. According to an embodiment of the invention, the fourth positive voltage **VP4** and the absolute value of the second negative voltage **VN2** are lower than the breakdown voltage of the non-volatile memory array **600** and exceed the first positive voltage **VP1**.

Since the second non-volatile memory cell **602** shares the first control line **CL1** with the first non-volatile memory **601**, the second bit line **BL2** and the second source line **SL2** are coupled to the ground such that the voltage across the floating gate **FG** of the second non-volatile memory cell **602** is lower.

Since the third non-volatile memory cell **603** and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** are coupled to the second word line **WL2** and the second control line **CL2**, the second word line **WL2** and the second control line **CL2** are coupled to the ground to prevent lower the voltages across the floating gates **FG** of the third non-volatile memory cell **603** and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604**. According to other embodiments of the invention, the second word line **WL2** may be coupled to the ground or the second negative voltage **VN2**.

When the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the erase mode in accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the bias voltages of the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** with separated source lines are as summarized in Table 4.

TABLE 4

	601	602	603	604
WL	0 or VN2	0 or VN2	0 or VN2	0 or VN2
SL	VN2	0	VN2	0
BL	VN2	0	VN2	0
P-well	VN2	VN2	VN2	VN2
CL	VP4	VP4	0	0
N-well	VP4	VP4	VP4	VP4

FIG. 7 is a schematic diagram of a non-volatile memory array in accordance with another embodiment of the invention. Comparing the non-volatile memory array **700** to the non-volatile memory array **500** in FIG. 5, the first source line **SL1** and the second source line **SL2** in FIG. 5 are coupled to a source node **NS** in FIG. 7.

As shown in FIG. 7, the non-volatile memory array **700** includes a first non-volatile memory cell **701**, a second non-volatile memory cell **702**, a third non-volatile memory cell **703**, and a fourth non-volatile memory cell **704** which

11

correspond to the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** in FIG. 6.

In addition, the layout of the non-volatile memory array **700** may be illustrated by the non-volatile memory array **600** in FIG. 6, except the first source line **SL1** and the second source line **SL2** are coupled to the source node **NS**. In other words, the first source line **SL1** and the second source line **SL2** of the non-volatile memory array **600** are coupled to the source node **NS** to be the non-volatile memory array **700**. Therefore, the chip area occupied by the source lines can be significantly reduced when all the source lines are coupled to a single node.

In the following paragraphs describing the non-volatile memory array **700** in the program mode and the erase mode, the non-volatile memory array **600** in FIG. 6 is illustrated with the first source line **SL1** and the second source line **SL2** coupled to the source node **NS**.

According to an embodiment of the invention, when the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the program mode, the first word line **WL1**, the source node **NS**, the P-well **201** and N-well **207** are coupled to the ground, the second positive voltage **VP2** is applied to the bit line **BL1**, while a first negative voltage **VN1** is applied to the first control line **CL1**.

In order to inhibit the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** from being programmed along with the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second word line **WL2**, the second bit line **BL2**, and the second control line **CL2** are coupled to the ground.

Since the non-volatile memory array **600** has a single source node **NS**, the source node **NS** should be coupled to the ground to inhibit second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** from being programmed, when the source node **NS** is coupled to the ground.

When the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the program mode in accordance with an embodiment of the invention, the bias voltages of the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** with a common source node **NS** are as summarized in Table 5.

TABLE 5

	601	602	603	604
WL	0	0	0	0
SL	0	0	0	0
BL	VP2	0	VP2	0
P-well	0	0	0	0
CL	VN1	VN1	0	0
N-well	0	0	0	0

According to an embodiment of the invention, when the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the erase mode, the third positive voltage **VP3** is applied to the first control line **CL1** and the N-well **207**, a fourth positive voltage **VP4** is applied to the source node **NS**, while the first word line **WL1**, the first bit line **BL1**, and the P-well **201** are coupled to the ground such that electrons can be ejected from the floating gate **FG** of the first non-volatile memory cell **601** to the first control line **CL1**.

According to an embodiment of the invention, the third positive voltage **VP3** exceeds the breakdown voltage of the

12

non-volatile memory cell **600**, the fourth positive voltage **VP4** is less than the breakdown voltage, and the difference between the third positive voltage **VP3** and the fourth positive voltage **VP4** is less than the breakdown voltage.

In order to inhibit the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** from being erased along with the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second word line **WL2** is coupled to the ground while the fourth positive voltage **VP4** is applied to the second bit line **BL2** and the second control line **CL2**.

Since the non-volatile memory array **600** shares the source node **NS** and the first non-volatile memory cell **601** and the second non-volatile memory cell **602** share the first control line **CL1**, the source node **NS** and the second bit line **BL2** should be supplied by the fourth voltage **VP4** to prevent the second non-volatile memory cell **602** from being erased along with the first non-volatile memory cell **601**.

In other words, the voltage across the floating gate of the second non-volatile memory cell **602** is equal to the voltage of the third positive voltage **VP3** minus the fourth positive voltage **VP4**. When the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the erase mode in accordance with an embodiment of the invention, the bias voltages of the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** with a common source node are as summarized in Table 6.

TABLE 6

	601	602	603	604
WL	0	0	0	0
SL	VP4 or 0	VP4 or 0	VP4 or 0	VP4 or 0
BL	0	VP4	0	VP4
P-well	0	0	0	0
CL	VP3	VP3	VP4	VP4
N-well	VP3	VP3	VP3	VP3

According to another embodiment of the invention, when the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the erase mode, the source node **NS** is coupled to the ground, the fourth positive voltage **VP4** is applied to the first control line **CL1** and the N-well **207** while a second negative voltage **VN2** is applied to the first word line **WL1**, the first bit line **BL1**, and the P-well **201** such that the electrons are ejected from the floating gate **FG** of the first non-volatile memory cell **601** to the first control line **CL1**.

According to an embodiment of the invention, the fourth positive voltage **VP4** and the absolute value of the second negative voltage **VN2** are lower than the breakdown voltage of the non-volatile memory array **600** and exceed the first positive voltage **VP1**.

In order to inhibit the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** from being erased along with the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second bit line **BL2**, and the second control line **CL2** are coupled to the ground while the second negative voltage **VN2** is applied to the second word line **WL2**.

The first bit line **BL1** is supplied by the second negative voltage **VN2**. The first word line **WL1** and the second word line **WL2** are supplied by the second negative voltage **VN2** to prevent the second negative voltage **VN2** shorted to the ground.

When the first non-volatile memory cell **601** is in the erase mode in accordance with another embodiment of the inven-

13

tion, the bias voltages of the first non-volatile memory cell **601**, the second non-volatile memory cell **602**, the third non-volatile memory cell **603**, and the fourth non-volatile memory cell **604** with a common source node are as summarized in Table 7.

TABLE 7

	601	602	603	604
WL	VN2	VN2	VN2	VN2
SL	0 or VN2	0 or VN2	0 or VN2	0 or VN2
BL	VN2	0	VN2	0
P-well	VN2	VN2	VN2	VN2
CL	VP4	VP4	0	0
N-well	VP4	VP4	VP4	VP4

FIG. 8 illustrates a top view of a layout of the non-volatile memory cell in accordance with another embodiment of the invention. Comparing FIG. 8 to FIG. 3, the non-volatile memory cell **800** further includes an N-type doped region **810** deposited in the N-well **207**.

As shown in FIG. 8, the second part **202b** of the first polysilicon layer **202** (i.e., the floating gate FG) overlaps the N-type doped region **810** and the P-type doped region **208**. The second part **202b** includes a second overlapped area **811** that is overlapped with the N-type doped region **810**. As shown in FIG. 8, the second overlapped area **811** has a second overlap width **OV2** equal to a second width **W2** of the N-type doped region **810**.

According to an embodiment of the invention, when the non-volatile memory cell **800** is in the program mode, the electrons are injected into the floating gate FG (i.e., the first polysilicon layer **202**) from the first overlapped area **210**. According to another embodiment of the invention, when the non-volatile memory cell **800** is in the erase mode, the electrons in the floating gate FG is ejected to the N-well **207** through the second overlapped area **811** of the N-type doped region **810**.

In other words, the non-volatile memory cell **800** is programmed through the first overlapped area **210** of the P-type doped region **208**, and is erased through the second overlapped area **811** of the N-type doped region **810**. According to other embodiments of the invention, when a non-volatile memory array including a plurality of the non-volatile memory cells **800** is in the erase mode, the whole non-volatile memory array should be erased at the same time, since all the non-volatile memory cells **800** is deposited in the N-well **207** and the N-type doped region **810** and the N-well **207** possess the identical voltage level.

When one of the non-volatile memory cells **800** of the non-volatile memory array is in the erase mode, the N-well **207** is supplied by the third positive voltage **VP3**. In addition, all the non-volatile memory cells **800** of the non-volatile memory array are deposited in the N-well **207** such that all the non-volatile memory cells **800** of the non-volatile memory array should be erased at the same time.

The bias voltages of the non-volatile memory cell **800** in the read mode, the program mode, and the erase mode are summarized in Table 8.

TABLE 8

	Read Mode	Program Mode	Erase Mode Type-1
WL	VP1	0	0
SL	0	0	0

14

TABLE 8-continued

	Read Mode	Program Mode	Erase Mode Type-1
BL	VP1	VP2	0
P-well	0	0	0
CL	VP1	VN1	VP4
N-well	VP1	0	VP3

Comparing Table 8 to Table 1, the control line CL is supplied by the fourth positive voltage **VP4** in the Type-1 erase mode, instead of the third positive voltage **VP3**. Since the electrons are ejected through the N-type doped region **811**, the voltage of the control line CL should be as low as possible without exceeding the breakdown voltage of the non-volatile memory cell **800**. Therefore, the control line CL is supplied by the fourth positive voltage **VP4** such that the voltage difference between the P-type doped region **208** and the N-well **207** is less than the breakdown voltage.

Embodiments of the invention provide a non-volatile memory cell that has low power consumption, that can be programmed by page or byte, and that is suitable for any type of substrate. According to an embodiment of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell provided herein is implemented by a regular CMOS process. According to an embodiment of the invention, since the read path is different from the program path and the erase path, the endurance of the non-volatile memory cell provided herein should be very high. According to some embodiments of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell provided herein can be implemented on P-type or N-type substrate. According to other embodiments of the invention, the non-volatile memory cell provided herein can be implemented on a deep N-well.

While the invention has been described by way of example and in terms of preferred embodiment, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto. Those who are skilled in this technology can still make various alterations and modifications without departing from the scope and spirit of this invention. Therefore, the scope of the present invention shall be defined and protected by the following claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. A non-volatile memory cell, comprising:

- 45 a floating-gate transistor, deposited in a P-well and comprising a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, wherein the gate terminal is coupled to a floating gate, the drain terminal is coupled to a bit line, and the source terminal is coupled to a first node, wherein the floating gate is formed by a first polysilicon layer;
- 50 a select transistor, deposited in the P-well and comprising a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, wherein the gate terminal is coupled to a select gate, the drain terminal is coupled to the first node, and the source terminal is coupled to a source line, wherein the select gate is coupled to a word line, wherein the floating-gate transistor and the select transistor are N-type transistors; and
- 60 a coupling structure, formed by extending the first polysilicon layer to overlap a control gate, wherein the control gate is a P-type doped region in an N-well, wherein the control gate is coupled to a control line.

2. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 1, wherein the select gate is formed by a second polysilicon layer, and the select transistor is formed by the second polysilicon layer overlapped with a first N-type doped region and a second

15

N-type doped region, wherein the first N-type doped region and the second N-type doped region are deposited in the P-well.

3. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 2, wherein the first polysilicon layer comprises a first part and a second part, and the floating-gate transistor is formed by the first part overlapped with the second N-type doped region and a third N-type doped region, wherein the third N-type doped region is deposited in the P-well.

4. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 3, wherein the second part extends from the P-well to the N-well, wherein the second part comprises a first overlapped area that overlaps with the P-type doped region, wherein the first overlapped area has a first overlap width, and the P-type doped region has a first width.

5. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 4, wherein the first overlap width is equal to or less than the first width.

6. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 4, further comprising:

an N-type doped region, formed in the N-well, wherein the second part further comprises a second overlapped area that overlaps with the N-type doped region, wherein the second overlapped area has a second overlap width and the N-type doped region has a second width, wherein the second overlap width is equal to the second width.

7. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 6, wherein when the non-volatile memory cell is in an erase mode, a third positive voltage is applied to the N-well, a fourth positive voltage is applied to the control line, while the word line, the source line, the bit line, and the P-well are coupled to a ground such that electrons are ejected from the floating gate to the N-well through the N-type doped region, wherein the third positive voltage exceeds a breakdown voltage, the fourth positive voltage is less than the breakdown voltage, and a difference between the third positive voltage and the fourth positive voltage is less than the breakdown voltage.

8. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 1, wherein the P-well is deposited apart from the N-well, wherein the P-well and the N-well are deposited in a substrate, wherein the substrate is either one of a P-type substrate, an N-type substrate, and a deep N-well.

9. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 1, wherein when the non-volatile memory cell is in a read mode, a first positive voltage is applied to the word line, the bit line, the control line, and the N-well, while the P-well and the source line are coupled to a ground.

10. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 9, wherein when the non-volatile memory cell is in a program mode, the N-well and the P-well are coupled to the ground, a second positive voltage is applied to the word line, the source line, and the bit line, and a first negative voltage is applied to the control line such that electrons are injected into the floating gate from the control line, wherein the second positive voltage and an absolute value of the first negative voltage are lower than a breakdown voltage and exceed the first positive voltage.

11. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 10, wherein when the non-volatile memory cell is in an erase mode, a third positive voltage is applied to the control line and the N-well while the word line, the source line, the bit line, and the P-well are coupled to a ground such that electrons are ejected from the floating gate to the control line, wherein the third positive voltage exceeds the breakdown voltage.

12. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 11, wherein when the non-volatile memory cell is in an erase mode, a fourth positive voltage is applied to the control line and the

16

N-well while a second negative voltage is applied to the word line, the source line, the bit line, and the P-well such that electrons are ejected from the floating gate to the control line, wherein the fourth positive voltage and an absolute value of the second negative voltage are lower than the breakdown voltage.

13. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 1, further comprising:

a first coupling structure, formed by a third polysilicon layer and deposited close to the first polysilicon layer.

14. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 13, further comprising:

a second coupling structure, formed by a metal layer and covering the floating gate.

15. The non-volatile memory cell of claim 14, wherein the first coupling structure and the second coupling structure are coupled to the bit line.

16. The non-volatile memory array of claim 14, wherein the first coupling structure and the second coupling structure are coupled to an independently-controlled coupling voltage.

17. A non-volatile memory array, comprising:

a plurality of non-volatile memory cells, comprising at least a first non-volatile memory cell, a second non-volatile memory cell, a third non-volatile memory cell, and a fourth non-volatile memory cell, wherein each of the non-volatile memory cells comprises:

a floating-gate transistor, deposited in a P-well and comprising a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, wherein the gate terminal is coupled to a floating gate, the drain terminal is coupled to a bit line, and the source terminal is coupled to a first node, wherein the floating gate is a first polysilicon layer;

a select transistor, deposited in the P-well and comprising a gate terminal, a drain terminal, and a source terminal, wherein the gate terminal is coupled to a select gate, the drain terminal is coupled to the first node, and the source terminal is coupled to a source line, wherein the select gate is coupled to a word line, wherein the floating-gate transistor and the select transistor are N-type transistors; and

a coupling structure, formed by extending the first polysilicon layer to overlap a control gate, wherein the control gate is a P-type doped region in an N-well, wherein the control gate is coupled to a control line.

18. The non-volatile memory array of claim 17, wherein the select gate is formed by a second polysilicon layer, and the select transistor is formed by the second polysilicon layer, a first N-type doped region, and a second N-type doped region, wherein the first N-type doped region and the second N-type doped region are deposited in the P-well, wherein the P-well is deposited apart from the N-well, wherein the P-well and the N-well are deposited on a substrate, wherein the first non-volatile memory cell is deposited in the P-well and coupled to a first bit line, a first source line, a first word line, and a first control line, wherein the second non-volatile memory cell is deposited in the P-well and coupled to a second bit line, a second source line, the first word line, and the first control line, wherein the third non-volatile memory cell is deposited in the P-well and coupled to the first bit line, the first source line, a second word line, and a second control line, wherein the fourth non-volatile memory cell is deposited in the P-well and coupled to the second bit line, the second source line, the second word line, and the second control line.

19. The non-volatile memory array of claim 18, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in a read mode, a first positive voltage is applied to the first word line, the first bit line, the first control line, and the N-well, while the P-well and the first source line are coupled to a ground.

20. The non-volatile memory array of claim 19, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in a program mode, the N-well and the P-well are coupled to the ground, a second positive voltage is applied to the first word line, the first source line, and the first bit line, while a first negative voltage is applied to the first control line such that electrons are injected into the first floating gate from the first control line, wherein the second positive voltage and an absolute value of the first negative voltage are lower than a breakdown voltage and exceed the first positive voltage.

21. The non-volatile memory array of claim 20, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in the program mode, the second bit line, the second source line, the second word line, and the second control line are coupled to the ground.

22. The non-volatile memory array of claim 20, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in an erase mode, a third positive voltage is applied to the first control line and the N-well while the first word line, the first source line, the first bit line, and the P-well are coupled to the ground such that electrons are ejected from the first floating gate to the first control line, wherein the third positive voltage exceeds the breakdown voltage.

23. The non-volatile memory array of claim 22, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in the erase mode, the second word line is coupled to the ground while a fourth positive voltage is applied to the second bit line, the second source line, and the second control line, the fourth positive voltage is less than the breakdown voltage and exceeds the first positive voltage, wherein a difference between the third positive voltage and the fourth positive voltage is less than the breakdown voltage.

24. The non-volatile memory array of claim 20, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in an erase mode, a fourth positive voltage is applied to the first control line and the N-well while a second negative voltage is applied to the first word line, the first source line, the first bit line, and the P-well such that the electrons are ejected from the first floating gate to the first control line, wherein the fourth positive voltage and an absolute value of the second negative voltage are lower than the breakdown voltage and exceed the first positive voltage.

25. The non-volatile memory array of claim 24, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in the erase mode, the second bit line, the second source line, the second word line, and the second control line are coupled to a ground.

26. The non-volatile memory array of claim 18, wherein the first source line and the second source line are coupled to a source node.

27. The non-volatile memory array of claim 26, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in a read mode, a first positive voltage is applied to the first word line, the first bit line, the first control line, and the N-well, while the P-well and the source node are coupled to a ground.

28. The non-volatile memory array of claim 27, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in a program mode, the N-well and the P-well are coupled to the ground, a second positive voltage is applied to the first bit line, and a first negative voltage is applied to the first control line such that electrons are injected into the first floating gate from the

first control line, wherein the second positive voltage is less than a breakdown voltage and exceeds the first positive voltage.

29. The non-volatile memory array of claim 28, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in the program mode, the first word line, the source node, the second bit line, the second word line, and the second control line are coupled to the ground.

30. The non-volatile memory array of claim 28, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in an erase mode, a third positive voltage is applied to the first control line and the N-well, a fourth positive voltage is applied to the source node, while the first word line, the first bit line, and the P-well are coupled to a ground such that the electrons are ejected from the first floating gate to the first control line, wherein the third positive voltage exceeds the breakdown voltage, the fourth positive voltage is less than the breakdown voltage, and a difference between the third positive voltage and the fourth positive voltage is less than the breakdown voltage.

31. The non-volatile memory array of claim 30, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in the erase mode, the second word line is coupled to the ground while a fourth positive voltage is applied to the second bit line, and the second control line.

32. The non-volatile memory array of claim 28, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in an erase mode, a fourth positive voltage is applied to the first control line and the N-well while a second negative voltage is applied to the first word line, the first bit line, and the P-well such that the electrons are ejected from the first floating gate to the first control line, wherein the fourth positive voltage and an absolute value of the second negative voltage are lower than the breakdown voltage.

33. The non-volatile memory array of claim 32, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in the erase mode, the second bit line, the source node, and the second control line are coupled to the ground while the second negative voltage is applied to the second word line.

34. The non-volatile memory array of claim 18, wherein the first polysilicon layer comprises a first part and a second part, wherein the floating-gate transistor is formed by the first part overlapped with the second N-type doped region and a third N-type doped region, wherein the third N-type doped region is deposited in the P-well, wherein the second part extends from the P-well to the N-well, wherein the second part comprises a first overlapped area that overlaps with the P-type doped region, wherein the first overlapped area has a first overlap width, and the P-type doped region has a first width, wherein each of the non-volatile memory cells further comprises:

an N-type doped region, formed in the N-well, wherein the second part further comprises a second overlapped area that overlaps with the N-type doped region, wherein the second overlapped area has a second overlap width and the N-type doped region has a second width, wherein the second overlap width is equal to the second width.

35. The non-volatile memory array of claim 34, wherein either one of the non-volatile memory cells in the non-volatile memory array is in an erase mode, all the non-volatile memory cells are erased simultaneously.

36. The non-volatile memory array of claim 34, wherein when the first non-volatile memory cell is in an erase mode, a third positive voltage is applied to the N-well, a fourth positive voltage is applied to the first control line, while the first word line, the first source line, the first bit line, and the

P-well are coupled to a ground such that electrons are ejected from the floating gate to the N-well through the N-type doped region, wherein the third positive voltage exceeds a breakdown voltage, the fourth positive voltage is less than the breakdown voltage, and a difference between 5 the third positive voltage and the fourth positive voltage is less than the breakdown voltage.

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